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- and clothing, at least for foreigners, and goods were in sufficient supply except that there would sometimes be no meat for several days. The Chinese had to have cards to buy "ration rice". Russian immigrants in Brazil told me that everyone must now have ration cards for all grades of rice. Bread is still available and is used to fill out the ration for foreigners. Rationing to foreigners, I am told, started in November 1953 in Tientsin and Shanghai and consists of the following: two pounds of flour, two pounds of rice and an unknown amount of oil and meat per month. I am told that meat is in very short supply.
- 6. Many of the Shanghai shops are closed for lack of the foreign patrons that supported them, and because they are forced to sell their products at the same prices charged by the state stores, which they find impossible to do and still continue in business. However, there are many Russian products on the market and the Russians spend quite liberally. Before the Communists came to Shanghai certain kinds of fur coats were very inexpensive. Now, however, these same fur coats have greatly increased in price as a result of purchases by Soviet wives.
- 7. Chimese clothing is very poor, but some Russian materials seemed thits good.

  The dyes in the cotton material hold up well. Sausage, butter, chocolate and Russian wines are cheap and readily available.

  Russian vines are cheap and readily available.

  a great deal of newsprint from the USSR stored at one of the warehouses of the Commercial Express Godown Co.
- 8. Radios were readily available, although most were old US radios. Cheap Chinese radios with US tubes were also for sale, but, as far as I know, there were no mass produced Chinese radios. All were, of course, registered with the police.
- 9. Another phenomenon of the Communist government is that all merchants paid their taxes. They never knew when someone might inform on them for not affixing the stamps to a bill. Several times need not put the stamps on goods but they insisted saying, "No, no, I am afraid!"
- 10. The following are prices of various articles of clothing and medical costs as of May 53. The medical expenses were incurred as a result of a physical examination before the government would issue an exit permit. The clothing is, or course, western dress.
  - a. Man's cotton shirt, cheaper quality: JMP\$ 35 thousand. Best quality, white: JMP\$240 thousand.
  - b. Man's leather shoes, best quality: JMP\$ 160-180 thousand.
  - c. Socks, good quality, silk: Japs 17,500.
  - d. Trousers, good quality: JRP\$ 850 thousand.
  - e. Man's suit, good quality, material, and work: JPS 15 million.
  - f. Man's hat, western dress, best quality (which is poor): JP\$ 75 thousand.
  - g. Cap (type worn by the Chinese Communists), best quality: 387\$ 30 thousand.

Medical expenses:

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X-ray of teeth: JRP\$ 4 thousand Physical examination, including chest fluoroscope: JRP\$12,000

Lung X-ray; small picture: Jack 22 thousand

Chest fluoroscope: JP\$ 6 thousand

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